Monday, April 11, 2023

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**Protesters to Demand GEHRHS Reverse Vote to Take Absecon Students**

Says decision is part of illegal effort to segregate schools.

Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District Board of Education Meeting

Cedar Creek High School, Egg Harbor City

1701 New York Ave, Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215

Monday, April 11, 2023, 7:00 PM

A delegation of protesters from the New Jersey Coalition Against Racial Exclusion (NJ-CARE) plan to show up at a Board of Education meeting at Cedar Creek High School tonight in Egg Harbor City to demand the Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District reverse its decision to take Absecon students currently assigned to Pleasantville High School.

The Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District voted to accept Absecon students at the request of the Absecon’s School Board. Absecon has petitioned the New Jersey Department of Education seeking to separate from Pleasantville High School.

The vote taken in 2019, would make the Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School Board “party to a petition that is clearly unconstitutional based on precedent, case law, and because it would clearly exacerbate segregation in the region.” according to a [letter to board members](https://buildingoneamerica.org/sites/default/files/attachments/gehrboe_houck.pdf) signed by Rev. Willie Francois, Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville and Olivia Caldwell, President, Mainland / Pleasantville NAACP.

The last time Absecon attempted to split from Pleasantville the New Jersey Courts denied their petition “as a matter of law” saying Absecon's cause of action “cannot overcome the negative effect of rendering Pleasantville's High School students racially Isolated.”

“Absecon’s current petition is no more lawful today than it was in 1988” said Rev. Francois “the Greater Egg Harbor Township Regional Board is complicit in this latest scheme to break the law by attempting to further segregate and racially isolate our school children”.

[The flyer](https://buildingoneamerica.org/sites/default/files/attachments/greater_egg_harbor_regional_0.pdf) the group intends to hand out calls on the Greater Egg Harbor Regional School Board “to do what is right. Reverse your decision to segregate our school and join us in our fight to make *all* our schools great, diverse, and inclusive.